Appl. No. 10/698,479

Species IV: Fig. 9;

Species V: Fig. 10;

Species VI: Fig. 11; and

Species VII: Fig. 12.

In response to this Election of Species Requirement, Applicant hereby elects Species II, Figure(s) 5-7a. Claims 1, 2, and 4-10 should read on this elected species. This election is with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that it should be no undue burden on the Examiner to consider all claims in the single application. Moreover, because at least generic claim 1 should be in condition for allowance, this Election of Species Requirement should also be overcome and withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

In the event there are any outstanding matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

Appl. No. 10/698,479

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

Joe McKinney Nuncy, #32,33

P.O. Box 747

KM/asc

3624-0135P

Falls Church, VA 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

(Rev. 04/19/2000)

3